

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application as follows:

Group I, Claims 8-15, drawn to dendrimer conjugates with adamantyl dioxetane compounds;

Group II, Claims 16, 17 and 20-25, drawn to dendrimer conjugates with acridinium compounds;

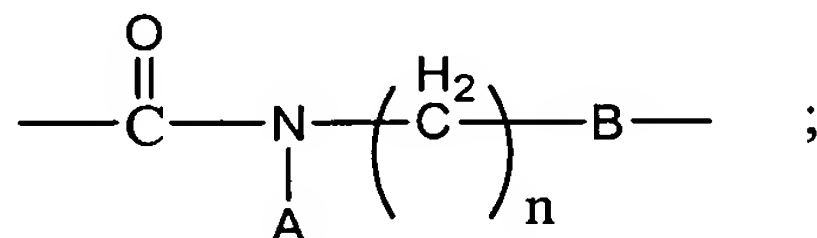
Group III, Claims 18 and 19, drawn to dendrimer conjugates with bisimidazole compounds; and

Group IV, Claims 34-35, drawn to a kit comprised of a dendrimer and at least one enzymatically active chemiluminescent substrate moiety, wherein there is no requirement that the dendrimer and chemiluminescent substrate moiety be conjugated to one another.

The Official Action is also requiring the election of a particular combination of dendrimer, linker, and enzymatically activated chemiluminescent substrate.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 8-15, drawn to dendrimer conjugates with adamantyl dioxetane compounds. In responding to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, a dioxetane based chemiluminescent substrate delivery system as set forth in Claim 8 wherein:

the linker has a structure as set forth below:



wherein n is a positive integer; A is H, alkyl, trihaloalkyl or aryl and B is independently NA, NC(O)A, O, S or CH₂; and

wherein the dendrimer is a PAMAM dendrimer.

The above election has been made with traverse. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that examination of all currently pending claims would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure states that “[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.” Applicants therefore respectfully request examination of all currently pending claims.

In responding to the restriction/election of species requirement, the applicants take no position regarding whether the claims of the various groups and species identified in the Official Action define distinct inventions.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' counsel, Christopher W. Raimund at (202) 861-3896.

Respectfully submitted,

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